

## Family and Group Child Care Home Letter Series - 2005-02

Date: December 5, 2005

To: All Family and Group Child Care Homes

From: James S. Sinnamon, Director  
Division of Child Day Care Licensing

Subject: Changes in the Family and Group Child Care Home Rules

Recently you received a copy of the new Licensing Rules for Family and Group Child Care Homes. As I indicated to you in the letter accompanying the rules, we are committed to providing training on the new rules to all active home-based child care providers. You will be notified as this training is developed.

To assist you in transitioning to the new rules, I would like to highlight some of the more significant changes. This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list of changes. As you review the rules, please direct questions you have about the new rules to your local licensing office.

- ☑ CPR and first aid training required prior to issuance of a certificate of registration. [R400.1902(1d)]
- ☑ Have a written and signed agreement with a responsible person who is 18 years of age or older to provide care and supervision for children during an emergency situation. [R400.1903(1f)]
- ☑ Assistant caregivers must have proof of valid CPR and first aid training within 90 days of hire. [R400.1904(1c)]
- ☑ Annual training requirements have been established:
  - For the licensee/registrant, not less than **10 clock hours** of training each year related to child development, program planning, and administrative management for a child care business, not including CPR and first aid training. [R400.1905(1)]
  - For each assistant caregiver, not less than **5 clock hours** of training each year related to child development and caring for children, not including CPR and first aid training. [R400.1905(2)]
- ☑ Assistant caregivers must have training on sudden infant death syndrome and shaken baby syndrome. [R400.1905(3)]
- ☑ Written evidence of freedom from communicable TB is no longer required at renewal. [R400.1906(1c)]
- ☑ Daily attendance records of children in care, including the name of the child and the time of arrival and departure, are required. [R400.1907(3)]
- ☑ Infant sleeping requirements are specified in rule. [R400.1912]
- ☑ Developmentally appropriate daily activities must include early language and literacy experiences throughout the day, accumulating for not less than 30 minutes. [R400.1914(3c)]

- ☑ TV, video tapes and movies must be limited to no more than 2 hours per day, and to programs designed for children's education and/or enjoyment. Programs/movies with violent or adult content, including soap operas, are not permitted in child-use space. [R400.1914]
- ☑ Soft objects, bumper pads, stuffed toys, quilts or comforters, pillows, and other objects that could smother an infant shall not be placed with or under a resting or sleeping infant. [R400.1916(7)]
- ☑ A land-line phone, that does not require electricity to operate, is required in the home. Cordless or cell phones may be used in addition to the land-line telephone. [R400.1917]
- ☑ Outdoor play space requirements for group child care homes have increased to a minimum of 600 square feet. [R400.1920(2)]
- ☑ Swings, climbers, slides, and other similar play equipment with a designated play surface above 30 inches may not be placed over concrete, asphalt, or similar surfaces, such as hard-packed dirt or grass. [R400.1920(5)]
- ☑ Spas and hot tubs must have locked hard covers, and may not be used when children are in care. [R400.1921]
- ☑ The adult to child in-the-water-ratio for children under 3 years of age shall be 1-to-1 at all times. [R400.1921(7)]
- ☑ Diapering and hand washing requirements are specified by rule. [R400.1923, R400.1924]
- ☑ Infants and toddlers may not be served or allowed to eat foods that may easily cause choking. [R400.1931(4c)]
- ☑ There shall be no flaking or deteriorating paint on interior and exterior surfaces, equipment, and toys accessible to children. [R400.1932(6)]
- ☑ Hot water temperature at faucets accessible to children may not exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit. [R400.1933(4)]
- ☑ Carbon monoxide detectors must be placed on all levels approved for child use. [R400.1934(3)]
- ☑ All basements approved for child use must have documentation of a radon test on file in the home. [R400.1934(4)]
- ☑ All firearms must be unloaded and properly stored in a locked environment inaccessible to children. Ammunition must be stored in a separate locked location. [R400.1935]
- ☑ Parents must be notified of animals and pets in the home. They may not be allowed in food preparation or eating areas during meals/snacks. [R400.1936]
- ☑ Locking devices on doors must be able to be easily disengaged. Double cylinder locks and key-operated locks are not allowed on any door in a required path of escape. [R400.1943(7)]
- ☑ Basement exit windows must have steps or platforms for access, and they must be permanently secured to the wall or floor. Ladders shall not be used as a means for exiting. Currently registered/licensed providers will have 1 year to comply with this rule. [R400.1943(11)]
- ☑ Fire drills must be practiced monthly. Tornado drills must be practiced monthly from April to October. [R400.1945]
- ☑ When transporting children, copies of child information cards and first aid kits are required. [R400.1951]
- ☑ Written permission from a child's parent is required before each time a child is transported in a vehicle. [R400.1952(1)]

cc: Child Day Care Licensing Consultants